What is claimed:

1. A composition for protecting natural and artificial hair color from environmental insults comprising:

a. melanin;

b. an ultraviolet absorber; and

c. a cationic surfactant.

2. The composition of claim 1 wherein:

a. the melanin comprises from about 0.001% to about 0.5% of the composition;

b. the ultraviolet absorber comprises from about 0.001% to about 10% of the composition;

c. the cationic surfactant comprises from about 0.001% to about 10% of the composition; or

d. any combination of the above.

3. The composition of claim 1 wherein

a. the melanin comprises from about 0.01% to about 0.1% of the composition;

b. the ultraviolet absorber comprises from about 0.01% to about 3% of the composition;

c. the cationic surfactant comprises from about 0.01% to about 3% of the composition; or

d. any combination of the above.

4. The composition of claim 1 further comprising an antioxidant.

5. The composition of claim 4 wherein the antioxidant comprises a liquid sunflower extract in butylene glycol.

6. The composition of claim 1 wherein:

a. the melanin comprises a soluble melanin;

b. the ultraviolet absorber is selected from the group consisting of a benzotriazole derivative, a benzophenone derivative, a triazine derivative, and a polyoxyalkylenated methine-based compound;

c. the cationic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of a cinnamate derivative, a long chain amine, a cationic alkyl ammonium salt, and a quaternized UV absorbing compound; or

d. any combination of the above.

7. The composition of claim 2 wherein:

a. the melanin comprises a soluble melanin;

b. the ultraviolet absorber is selected from the group consisting of a benzotriazole derivative, a benzophenone derivative, a triazine derivative, and a polyoxyalkylenated methine-based compound;

c. the cationic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of a cinnamate derivative, a long chain amine, a cationic alkyl ammonium salt, and a quaternized UV absorbing compound; or

d. any combination of the above.

8. The composition of claim 6 wherein:

a. the soluble melanin comprises a soluble melanin derived from sunflower seed;

b. the benzotriazole derivative comprises an aryl sulfonated benzotriazole;

c. the quaternized UV absorbing compound comprises a quaternary ammonium compound; or

d. any combination of the above.

9. The composition of claim 7 wherein:

a. the soluble melanin comprises a soluble melanin derived from sunflower seed;

b. the benzotriazole derivative comprises an aryl sulfonated benzotriazole;

c. the quaternized UV absorbing compound comprises a quaternary ammonium compound; or

d. any combination of the above.

10. The composition of claim 8 wherein the quaternary ammonium compound comprises an alkyl quaternary ammonium salt.

11. The composition of claim 9 wherein the quaternary ammonium compound comprises an alkyl quaternary ammonium salt.

12. A method for protecting natural and artificial hair color from environmental insults comprising applying to hair a composition comprising:

a. melanin;

b. an ultraviolet absorber; and

c. a cationic surfactant.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein:

a. the melanin comprises from about 0.001% to about 0.5% of the composition;

b. the ultraviolet absorber comprises from about 0.001% to about 10% of the composition;

c. the cationic surfactant comprises from about 0.001% to about 10% of the composition; or

d. any combination of the above.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein:

a. the melanin comprises from about 0.01% to about 0.1% of the composition;

b. the ultraviolet absorber comprises from about 0.01% to about 3% of the composition;

c. the cationic surfactant comprises from about 0.01% to about 3% of the composition; or

d. any combination of the above.

15. The method of claim 12 wherein:

a. the melanin comprises a soluble melanin;

b. the ultraviolet absorber is selected from the group consisting of a benzotriazole derivative, a benzophenone derivative, a triazine derivative, and a polyoxyalkylenated methine-based compound;

c. the cationic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of a cinnamate derivative, a long chain amine, a cationic alkyl ammonium salt, and a quaternized UV absorbing compound; or

d. any combination of the above.

16. The method of claim 13 wherein:

a. the melanin comprises a soluble melanin;

b. the ultraviolet absorber is selected from the group consisting of a benzotriazole derivative, a benzophenone derivative, a triazine derivative, and a polyoxyalkylenated methine-based compound;

c. the cationic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of a cinnamate derivative, a long chain amine, a cationic alkyl ammonium salt, and a quaternized UV absorbing compound; or

d. any combination of the above.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein:

a. the soluble melanin comprises a soluble melanin derived from sunflower seed;

b. the benzotriazole derivative comprises an aryl sulfonated benzotriazole;

c. the quaternized UV absorbing compound comprises a quaternary ammonium compound; or

d. any combination of the above.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein:

a. the soluble melanin comprises a soluble melanin derived from sunflower seed;

b. the benzotriazole derivative comprises an aryl sulfonated benzotriazole;

c. the quaternized UV absorbing compound comprises a quaternary ammonium compound; or

d. any combination of the above.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein the quaternary ammonium compound comprises an alkyl quaternary ammonium salt.

20. A composition for protecting natural and artificial hair color from environmental insults comprising:

a. from about 0.03% to about 0.04% soluble melanin derived from sunflower seed;

b. from about 0.1% to about 0.15% sodium benzotriazolyl butylphenol sulfonate; and

c. from about 1% to about 1.5% cinnamidopropyltrimonium chloride.